

# A Zero Waste Journey: Funding Sources

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sustainable Schools Symposium, 1 April 2011



# Why Zero Waste

An **average-sized elementary school** generates **18,000 lbs** of trash per year. (kidskonserve.com)

The **average student** generates approximately **1/2 lb of waste** per school day. (EPA)

The **average American** generates of **4.5 lbs of waste** per day (29 lbs/week, or 1,600 lbs/year), of which **55%** is landfilled. On average, American garbage consists of:

- 37% paper and paperboard
- 12% yard trimmings, 11% food
- 11% plastics , 8% metals, 5% glass
- 15% other: textiles, rubber, leather, wood... (EPA)

**Active area landfill** space is at a premium, making hauling necessary.



# Funding Opportunities

- **Private** Funding
- Strategic **Partners**
- **Fundraising** (PTOs)
- **Public** Funding (Government Grants)

e.g., IL Department of Commerce & Opportunity



# About D97/William Beye Elementary



**William Beye Elementary School** is a diverse K-5 school in Oak Park.

- Over 400 students
- 130th anniversary in 2010
- Neighborhood (walkable) school
- School garden, active wellness programming

**Collaboration** is key

- BUT story & solutions at each school can vary
- Combining forces with SGA leadership pooled learnings & increased efficiencies



# Beye Begins its ZW Journey

## Beye Green Team Formed (Fall '08; 10 parents)

- Create a culture from within community, student-led over time
  - PTO support
  - Green Ambassadors program (“we’re all on green team”)
  - School staff/administration buy-in (and leadership in some cases)

## Waste Assessment

(grant requirement)

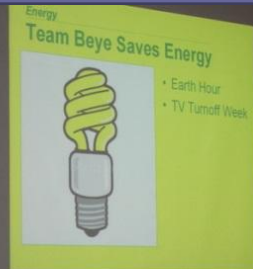
## DCEO Application submitted



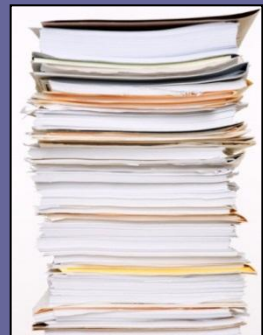
GreenMySchool  
contest



# Building Excitement, Awareness



Thurs packets  
reduced 80%



Excitement, publicity, goodwill. —————> Fundraising, better rates.



# Ready for First Grant Purchases

- Hand dryers
- Worm bins
- Smartboards
- Reusable lunchroom: dishwasher, trays, utensils, napkin/condiment dispensers, no more straws.
- Lunchroom sorting stations (food in trash for 2 months – shift habits!)
- True composting! 6 tumblers, sorting video by green ambassadors.



# Community Donations

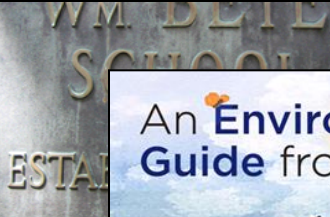
- Shredded paper and sawdust for composters (2 local businesses)
- Carbon bins for compost (leaf storage) built by alum as Eagle Scout project
- Leaves, hay bales (family donations)
- Composting expertise/time: U of I Extension Master Composter
- Rain barrels (painted, auctioned for aver \$250/ea)





# Zero Waste in Action

- Green Team **web resources/news**
- Green **library** in media center
- **Worm bins** in 7 classrooms
- **Sneaker & Crayon** drives
- Monthly “**Waste Free Wednesdays**” (popc parties, PAWs) & SURPRISE WFWs
- **Earth month** campaigns
- **Green movie** nights
- **Paper Reuse** pilot program (district input), green survey



## Green Team

**April 22 is the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, and green spirit.** Please participate in the month-long celebration remembering that Earth Day is every day! See below, at the bottom of the page, for the full lineup.

> **Poster contest** (great prizes!). NOW through Thursday, April 19. [Click for contest details.](#)

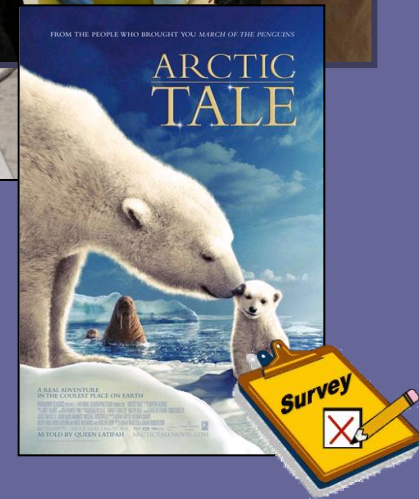
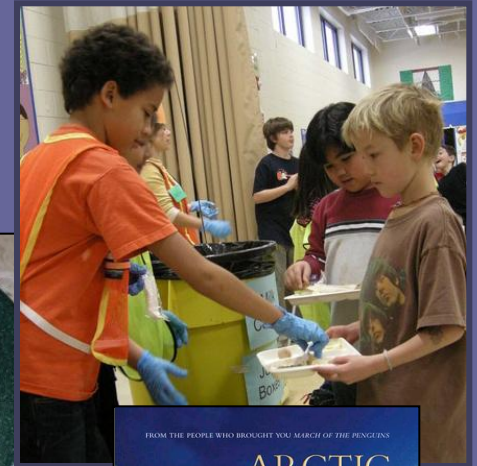
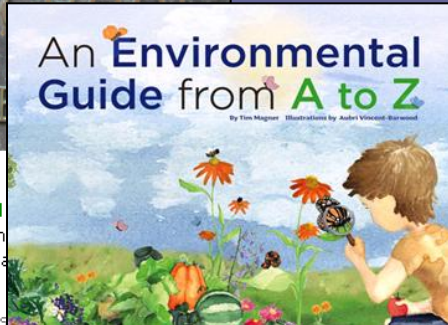
> **Eco-spirit week** (get your **colored t-shirts** ready!). Monday through Friday, April 22-26.

> **Bid on a rain barrel** (a “Stunning Cells” themed one by Pollock themed one), hand-painted by Beye’s Green Art Team (artist parents Claire Ashley & Christine Fisher) at the Anniversary Auction, Thurs 4/15 6:30P. [Click for auction details.](#)

> **Green Assembly** for all students/classes, 4/19 A.M.

> **Green movie night: “Arctic Tale.”** All Beye families invited to a special screening at 6:30P. Free snacks to those bringing a reusable cup for popcorn (don’t forget your reusable water bottle with you). Those who bike or walk will be entered into a green raffle for a chance per family member who walks or bikes).

> **Monthly waste-free Wednesday Lunch**, Wed 4/22. No waste! No trash! No recycling! No paper! No plastic! No Styrofoam! No aluminum! No glass! No metal! No... anything that can’t be composted!



# *A Greener Beye Looks Forward*

- More response, home-grown culture **year-by-year!** (Art awareness program, Wellapalooza, school events – greening)
- Hoping to implement another **\$10K grant next year** (**industrial composting** upgrade)
- More Smartboards
- **Recycling station**
- **Measuring success** ongoing (against benchmarks)



# By the #s: Some Successes

**Composting** approx 1/2 of lunchroom food (for school garden, grounds; compost fundraisers?)



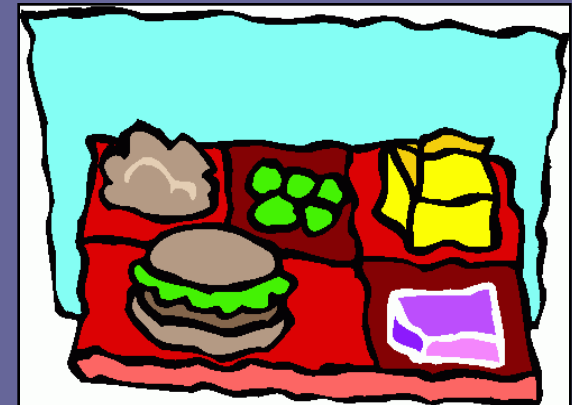
Since starting with ZW in 2008, Beye has:



**Decreased TRASH** generated by **55%**  
**Increased RECYCLING** by **76%**

To date, Beye has **diverted from landfill:**

- **Almost 5,400 lbs** of *food waste* (aver 18 lbs/day)
- **Over 10,000 lbs** of *liquids* (aver 34 lbs/day)
- **900 lbs** disposable *trays* year 1 (14lbs/day, \$5100/yr)
- **160 lbs** *paper towels* year 1 (dryers in 2 washrms, now diverting estimated 1lb/day)







## D97 Actual Savings to Date

District Savings to Date on Lunchrooms (5 schools)  
\$19,734.99

+

District Savings to Date on Paper (8 schools)  
\$6,249.00

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**TOTAL SAVINGS = \$25,983.99/yr**



# D97 Zero Waste Grant Funding Awarded

DCEO Zero Waste Grant Funding			
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Beye		\$9,962.00	\$ 9,993.00
Hatch		\$8,667.00	
Holmes	\$10,000.00		\$ 2,998.00
Irving			\$ 9,640.00
Lincoln		\$9,997.00	
Longfellow		\$9,985.00	\$ 3,807.00
Mann		\$3,068.00	\$ 3,220.00
Whittier		\$2,910.00	
<b>D97 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$44,589.00</b>	<b>\$ 29,658.00</b>

Other Zero Waste grant funding for 2008-09: \$7,500 and \$2,500

**TOTAL GRANT FUNDING**  
**\$94,247.00**



# Benefits to Collaboration

## Benefits to Collaboration with Other Schools and SGA

- Learn from other schools' experiences
- Funding support
- Support for your activities and efforts
- Creating a wave of change - building momentum

## Join the discussion at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/zerowasteschools/>





# True Sustainability: Student-Led!



(Highlight from Beye's "Green My School" DVD Entry, Jan 2009)

# Thank You!



**Jen Nelson, Seven Generations Ahead**

[jen@sevendgenerationsahead.org](mailto:jen@sevendgenerationsahead.org) / <http://www.sevendgenerationsahead.org>

**Ana Garcia Doyle, W. Beye Elementary School**

[beyegreen@gmail.com](mailto:beyegreen@gmail.com) / <http://beyeschoolpto.org/website/wellness/green-team>